

The Arizona Sentinel.

INDEPENDENT IN ALL THINGS.

NEUTRAL IN NOTHING.

VOL. VI.

YUMA, A. T., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1877.

NO. 30.

The Arizona Sentinel.

Published every Saturday by the
Sentinel Publishing Company.
GEORGE TYND, Editor
AND GENERAL BUSINESS AGENT.

Subscription:
One year.....\$5.00
Six months.....3.00
Single copies.....12

Advertising:
One inch, each insertion.....\$2.50
Each subsequent insertion.....1.25
Contracts by the year or quarter at reduced rates.

Job Printing:
Legal Blanks, Briefs, Bill-Heads, Letter-Heads, Circulars, Labels, Cards, Programmes, etc., printed in every style, with neatness and dispatch.
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Office on Main street, opposite Postoffice,
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F. L. B. GOODWIN,

Attorney and Counselor at Law,
Prescott, : : : : Arizona.

T. J. DRUM,

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Prescott, : : : : Arizona.

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Jul 28 of MIGUEL CONTRERAS.

Don't Take Sides.

Arizona's policy is to avoid tak-
ing sides in any railroad quarrel.
With San Diego, Tom Scott is
"Hobson's choice"—that or nothing.
We all want a competing
road but this will never be built
on the 32 parallel route; the Gila
valley will never know more than
one road. If the route is given
wholly to Scott he can never build
it until he can restore his credit
by paying off part of the immense
debts of his 6000 miles of eastern
roads. Life is rather short for
that. That the nation will put up
money enough to build the whole
road for him, is a childish delusion.
The nation has done that thing
once: Scott's friends have been the
loudest in denouncing that folly
and his enemies will be "patriotic"
enough to prevent its repetition
in his favor. If the route is given
wholly to Stanford, it is foolish to
suppose that he will want to build
a road to compete with the Central
Pacific. Not much. All he
wants is to keep any one else from
copying the route and compet-
ing with him. If to do this he is
forced to build the road himself,
he will do so; but not if it can be
avoided. Twenty years from now
is the time to which the Central
Pacific people look forward for
wanting to use this route. By
that time their snow sheds, trest-
les and road bed will be pretty
well used up; some little bond-
will be due and payable with their
accumulated interest; the land
grant will be in the hands of inno-
cent purchasers. Then if the na-
tion wants to foreclose and take
the Central Pacific for its debts,
Stanford is willing. He can then
"compete" over the cheaper and
easier Southern Pacific. If the
Central is sold by the nation, he
can bid it in for one-twentieth of
the money it would cost him to
pay its honest debts, and run it for
local traffic only. If Arizona has
any influence in the matter, it
should be used in favor of a meas-
ure providing ample assistance
per mile to Scott; to Stanford
nothing but right of way to meet
him; Scott needs help, the other
don't. Each would then nearly
break his neck to build a road rap-
idly. The longer his part of the
road, the larger percentage would
he receive of through freight
money. We would then see a val-
ue like that between the Central
and Union Pacific, while they
were being made. Thus would
the road be built quickly. But if
either one gets the whole route,
Arizona will see little of this road
for years to come. Our true policy
is to help both.

The "Hoo-doo" Stick.

Some remarkable results have
been accomplished in this county
by the use of forked sticks of
grease-wood, or of any of several
shrubs in lignum to the country.
The well near Castle Dome was
found at a depth of thirty feet by
the indications of a "hoo-doo
stick," as the boys up there used
to call the divining rod. Several
large bodies of lead ore, buried
deep under the gravel, were found
up there by its use; and California
papers occasionally give us ac-
counts of its services in finding
water in that State. The chiefs,
of proficiency in its use, are now
in Pinal county and happy results
may be expected from their labors
in that rich section. Its use is
nothing new, but as no popular
scientific explanation of its work-
ings has been published, people
are afraid of being called supersti-
tious for avowing belief in its effi-

cacy. In the eastern States witch
hazel is supposed to be the only
proper material, but out here any
green wood proves effective.
There is ample evidence of two
facts; that the rod works independ-
ently of its holder's volition and
that some of the results of its work-
ing are the finding of underground
streams of water and bodies of ore.
Webster defines "Bletonism," as:

The supposed faculty of perceiving and
indicating subterraneous springs and cur-
rents by sensation; so called from one
Bleto, of France, who was said to possess
this faculty.

The common instrument used
is a fork of small, slim, green
wood. The tip ends are placed
horizontally in the hands, the
palms of which are upward; this
brings the fork upward in the
shape of an inverted V—thus, A.
The fork-end is then attracted by
living water and by the metals
which attract electricity; for upon
electricity after all are based all
the most plausible explanations of
the mystery.

It does not work with every one.
Rittenhouse, Hopkins, Sibald,
Chilson and a number of others
well known in Yuma, are men in
whose hands the stick works un-
der circumstances, which pre-
clude all possibility of deception or fraud.
In the East, persons possessing
the faculty are well known as
"water-witches."

Experts in Bletonism say, that
the distance, from the point where
the stick is attracted at an angle
of 45 degrees to the point where
the attraction is perpendicular, is
about the same as the depth, from
the surface, of the water or ore.

Nearly sixty years ago a number
of well attested instances of suc-
cessful Bletonism were published
in the Cultivator newspaper of
New York. Some years after, a
tract on the subject was written
by Dr. Adam Clark, one of the
fathers of Wesleyan Methodism,
who proved the matter by repeat-
ed experiments. Not discovering
any law of nature to account for
the facts, Dr. Clark concludes
that Bletonism must be a special
gift of God to some, for the benefit
of the human race.

Several philosophers have work-
ed for a satisfactory explanation.
The rod has been tested by the
electric machine; the positive pole
attracts it, while the negative re-
pels it. The following explanation
based on these experiments and
upon the well known law, that
bodies negatively charged attract
those charged positively and vice
versa; while those charged alike re-
pel each other. Veins of water and
of ore absorb electricity from sur-
rounding objects and become high-
ly charged.

Men, who usually generate or
imbué both negative and positive
electricity in equal quantities,
maintain their bodies in an elec-
tric equilibrium; in their hands
the rod does not work. Other
men are surcharged with electri-
city and become positive; others
contain very little and are nega-
tive; in hands of these the rod is
very sensitive and, when they
stand over water or ore, becomes
part of the connection between
the then existing electric poles.
When the operator is charged po-
sitively the stick will turn upward
toward himself. When he is ne-
gative the rod will be drawn down-
ward towards the water or ore.
With very sensitive persons the
effect is felt as well as seen.

Twenty-five years ago was pub-
lished the following statement
from Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin:
There are numbers of miners among us
who depend on the rod to find crevices in

the rock under the clay surface. They
seek for crevices because lead ore is usual-
ly found in them, though there are many
crevices in which there are no valuable
minerals. My observation leads to the
conclusion that a vein of water has strong-
er attraction for the rod than any of the
ores, excepting silver and iron, and that
they must exist in considerable quantity
to attract equally with water. From what
depth the rod may be attracted, I am not
advised. I have known water to be found
in this way from ten to forty feet under
the surface and I think the attraction may
reach from a depth of seventy feet.

With the above statement are
given a number of well attested
instances of Bletonism.

The foregoing explanation is
given for what it is worth, but we
have seen the "Hoodoo" stick
work and believe in it. Now
some man in California has per-
fected a Hoodoo machine and re-
ports are coming in of its success-
ful working. But the forked stick
is at every man's hand and we
advise the boys to experiment
with it without fear of being
laughed at. It don't work for the
SENTINEL man, wish it did. In
hunting over a ledge for a pay
streak or chimney, wet the soles
of your boots. If this hint discov-
ers a bonanza, we want speci-
mens from it for the SENTINEL
cabinet.

Our Grant.

Camou Brothers, of Guaymas,
Sonora, have begun proceedings to
foreclose a mortgage made in their
favor by Jose Calvo on eighteen
one-hundredths of the Paso de los
Algodones rancho, in Yuma coun-
ty, and on other property in Ari-
zona and Sonora. The proceedings
state that the title to said rancho
is in the heirs of Fernando Rodri-
quez, it having been issued in his
name and he having reserved some
shares in it. Our sheriff is adver-
tising the same rancho for sale for
unpaid taxes. The United States
has issued a patent to the village
of Yuma for a part of the same
ground. The Colorado Commis-
sion and Land Company claims the
rancho, and has already issued
deeds for several parts of it. Al-
together our grant is somewhat
mixed.

Mr. Hood, chief engineer of the Southern
Pacific railroad, arrived in Tucson yester-
day. His appearance here causes no little
star as his visit is probably a very im-
portant one, that of selecting a route for the
railroad through Arizona. Just now Mr.
Hood holds the financial prosperity of many
mine owners in his hands.

Since writing the above we are informed
by day's news that Engineer Hood visited
the grounds of the military plaza yesterday
where he located the depot for the road.
The track will run through the street
which is designated on the map as Sixth
avenue. The report of the engineer has, of
course to be approved by the company.
Mr. Hood starts for San Francisco to-day.

ATZEC DISTRICT AFFAIRS.

Work on the Aztec mine is being pushed
ahead with a force of twenty-eight men. All
the shafts and workings looking well. Tak-
ing out a few tons of ore daily. On the
Aztec mine four men are at work on a
six foot vein, running a tunnel. Excellent
mining ore of a high grade is being piled
on the dump. A shaft is being sunk on the
Luna mine. Four men at work. Camp
Tuttee has a population now of 51 souls.
Manager Magee is pushing things lively in
the Aztec district. The cool weather now
in the mountains has a most beneficial ef-
fect. Everybody healthy and healthy.—[Star.]

New Revenue Stamps.

The internal revenue office has just re-
ceived an installment of first proofs of the
new designs of revenue stamps for tobacco,
snuff and cigars. The designs and engrav-
ing are the product of the skill of the op-
eratives of the Bureau of Engraving and
Printing, and are models of neatness and
beauty. They all bear the finely executed
vignette head of Henry Clay.

The native savings bank of Honolulu has
also bustled, and the officials can't tell what
has become of the funds. We'll bet a nickel
that it was run by some American shyster.

The Rev. Dr. John Pissel, the new chap-
lain of the House of Representatives, was
once a shoemaker in Martinsburg, West Vir-
ginia, and studied theology while working
on his bench. He has passed his fiftieth
year in the ministry of the Methodist Epis-
copal church.

Stages for Hermosillo and other points
in Sonora leave Tucson every Monday and
Thursday; arrive on Wednesdays and Sat-
urdays.

Railroad Notes.

Both of the surveying parties sent out by
the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railroad
company to run lines westward towards
the San Juan country have finished their
labors for the present.

Mr. Hollbrook's party went as far as the
Gunnison via Marshall Pass. A practicable
line has been found, some of the grades
being as much as two hundred feet to the
mile; two tunnels will be necessary, and
there are no curves more than fifteen de-
grees. A portion of the line runs along
the Tumitchi creek, through a very beau-
tiful country, where numerous hay ranches
have been located. This line, though the
grades are somewhat greater and the work
rougher, is about forty-seven miles shorter
than that via the Cochetopa Pass.

Mr. Morley ran his line via the Co-
chetopa Pass. Mr. Morley then returned
and examined the Ute Pass, and has now
gone on an expedition towards Arizona in
the interest of the A. T. & S. F. Co. It is
thought probable that a line will be located
as far as the Gunnison very soon.—[Pueblo
Chieftain.]

Expenses of Postoffice Department.

The estimates for the expenses of the
postoffice department for the fiscal year
ending June 30 next, were \$30,723,432.43,
and the estimated income of the department;
during the same period, was something
over \$34,000,000, leaving an estimated de-
ficiency, which was asked for, of \$6,078,-
267.43. Congress only appropriated on
account of this estimated deficiency, the
sum of \$2,930,725, being far short of what
was asked for. The universal stagnation
of business all over the country during the
past summer has had the effect to decrease
the anticipated revenue to a considerable
extent, which will have the effect to ag-
gravate, in proportion, the deficiency only
partly provided for in the last postoffice
appropriation bill, so that Congress will be
asked, in addition to its estimated deficiency
for the coming fiscal year, to make a con-
siderable independent appropriation to
meet the wants of the service during the
present year.

Gov. HOTT has appointed and commis-
sioned Edward H. Williamson, Esq., of
Philadelphia, commissioner of deeds for
Arizona, to reside in Pennsylvania.

A Brave Russian General.

Skobelev swam the Danube on horse-
back to show it could be done, and has
had five horses shot under him during this
campaign. During one of his reconnois-
sances near Plevna he came in view of a deli-
cious spring of water, apparently unaccessi-
ble, however, because of the hail of Turk-
ish bullets that pattered around it. The
soldiers shrunk back from facing almost
certain death, till Skobelev dismounted;
calmly walked to the fountain, drank
freely of its waters and bathed his face and
hands. Stung by this implied taunt the
soldiers rushed forward to shield him; Sko-
belev ordered them under arrest for leav-
ing their ranks, and calmly walked back.
—[Baltimore Bulletin.]

The Mites of Africa.

Setting aside the contributions of our
expedition to geography, the grandest dis-
covery it has made is the great field for
trade it has opened to the world, especially
to the English, French, Germans and Amer-
icans, the English especially, far greater
attention to those fabrics and wares gene-
rally purchased by Africans on the West Coast.
I found numbers—I shall have thrown
open to commerce an area embracing over
six hundred thousand square miles, which
contains nearly two thousand miles of an
uninterrupted course of water communi-
cation, divided among the Upper Congo and
its magnificent affluents. It will take a
long time to make up my map, but I pro-
mise you a rough sketch of the unknown
half of Africa, now revealed for the first
time, and you will find that in this brief
letter I am underestimating the merits of
this new field for commerce. I will show
you, when I have had time to arrange my
notes, how near we are to extensive gold
and copper fields, and what products mer-
chants may expect in return for their fa-
brics.—[Cor. of H. M. Stanley.]